

section being disposed above said shaft and pivotable about said shaft, wherein when said reading section pivots away from said recording section such that said front edge moves forward and downward, a space is provided above said recording section, and said recording section is exposed outside through said space.

2. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reading section is disposed closer to the front side of said outer casing than said recording section and is pivotable toward the front side of said outer casing.

4. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a control panel having a front end substantially in coincidence with the front side of said outer casing, a rear end opposing the front end, and a lower surface, wherein said reading section is disposed on the lower surface of said control panel and pivotable together with said control panel, such that the front end of said control panel moves downward.

5. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 4, further comprising a document holding section that extends from the rear end of said control panel for supporting documents to be conveyed to said reading section, wherein said document holding section moves together with said reading section, and serves as a cover for covering said recording section when not moved open.

6. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said recording section comprises an ink-jet-printer provided with an ink cartridge that can be upwardly removed from said ink-jet printer after pivoting said reading section away from said recording section.

8. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 4, further comprising a document discharge tray pivotally and detachably mounted near the front edge of said reading section for receiving documents discharged from said reading section, wherein said document discharge tray is maintained at a predetermined angle with respect to

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a direction in which the documents are discharged when in use and is pivotable in a direction opposite the pivoting direction of said reading section.

10. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a recording paper discharge tray having an underside, right side and a left side, said recording paper discharge tray being provided on the front end of said outer casing for receiving recording paper discharged from said recording section, said recording paper discharge tray normally slanting upward and being displaced downward due to contact from said reading section when said reading section pivots away from said recording section.

11. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 10, further comprising an urging member, wherein said recording paper discharge tray is pivotally supported on said outer casing and is supported by said urging member to slant upward.

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14. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 10, wherein said document discharge tray contacts said recording paper discharge tray when said reading section pivots and rotates in a direction opposite the rotational direction of said reading section into a receded position.

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15. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 10, wherein said outer casing comprises left and right side covers, between which said reading section is pivotally supported on said shaft, said reading section has left and right walls on which ribs are formed, the ribs being in sliding contact with said left and right side covers at all times, even when said reading section is rotated.

16. (Amended) The multi-functional device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the back edge of said reading section protrudes above said left and right side covers when said reading section pivots; the ribs comprises linear protrusions extending in a direction nearly parallel to said control panel, such that one portion of the ribs protrudes above said left and right side covers when said reading section pivots.

21. (Amended) A multi-functional device comprising:
an outer casing having a front side, a rear side opposing the front side, and a
lower side;
a shaft supported on said outer casing;
a recording section that records images on a recording medium; and
a reading section that reads images from a document, said reading section
having a front edge substantially in coincidence with the front side of said outer casing, a
back edge opposing the front edge, left and right walls, and a lower surface, said reading
section being disposed above said shaft and pivotable about said shaft in a manner that said
front edge moves forward and downward so as to separate from said recording section,
whereby a space is provided above said recording section.

Please add new claims 22 and 23 as follows:

22. A multi-functional device comprising:
an outer casing having a front side, a rear side opposing the front side, and a
lower side;
a shaft supported on said outer casing;
a recording section that records images on a recording medium; and
a reading section that reads images from a document, said reading section
having a front edge substantially in coincidence with the front side of said outer casing, a
back edge opposing the front edge, left and right walls, and a lower surface, said reading
section being disposed above said shaft and pivotable about said shaft, wherein when said
reading section pivots away from said recording section, a space is provided above said
recording section, and said recording section is exposed outside through said space, wherein